

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-29. (canceled).

30. (currently amended) A radio frequency identification device, comprising:

an elongated and disposable flexible strap having first and second opposite ends and having a fastening opening in one of said ends;

securement means incorporating a fastening element engageable with said fastening opening to removably connected to connect said strap for supporting and retaining said strap in a closed loop configuration encircling an object or an individual to be identified; and

a radio frequency identification circuit carried by said securement means; said securement means with said radio frequency identification circuit carried thereby having said fastening element being removable from said strap fastening opening prior to disposal of said strap, and being adapted for subsequent assembly and re-use with a replacement strap.

31. (canceled).

32. (previously presented) The radio frequency identification device of claim 30 wherein said radio frequency identification circuit is embedded within said securement means.

33. (currently amended) The radio frequency identification device of claim 30 further including an antenna carried by said strap, and coupling contact means for operatively electrically connecting said antenna with said radio frequency identification circuit when said securement means is connected to said strap.

34. (currently amended) The radio frequency identification device of claim 30 wherein said fastening element comprises a boss located internally of said securement means and said strap first end has said fastening opening formed therein ~~include cooperatively engageable connector means~~ for removably attaching said strap first end to said boss securement means, said securement means further defining an opening extending therethrough for slide-fit passage of said strap second end.

35. (currently amended) The radio frequency identification device of claim 30 wherein said strap defines a pair of fastening openings formed respectively at said first and second ends thereof, and further wherein said securement means defines first and second opposite extremities each having a size and shape for interference fit reception respectively into said openings at said strap first and second ends.

36. (currently amended) The radio frequency identification device of claim 35 further including an antenna carried by said strap generally at said first end thereof for operative electrical connection with said radio frequency identification circuit when said first extremity of said securement means is received into the opening at said strap first end, and wherein said strap is marked at including indicia identifying said strap first end to indicate the location of said antenna.

37. (previously presented) The radio frequency identification device of claim 35 wherein said strap comprises an elongated tubular band.

38. (currently amended) A radio frequency identification device, comprising:

an elongated and disposable flexible strap having first and second opposite ends, said strap first end having a fastening opening formed therein; securement means incorporating a fastening element engageable with said fastening opening to removably connect connected to said strap for supporting and retaining said strap in a closed loop configuration encircling an object or an individual to be identified;

~~said securement means and said strap first end including cooperatively engageable connector means for removably attaching said strap first end to said securement means, said securement means further defining an opening extending therethrough for slide-fit passage of said strap second end; and~~

a radio frequency identification circuit carried by said securement means;

said securement means with said radio frequency identification circuit carried thereby having said fastening element being removable from said strap fastening opening prior to disposal of said strap, and being adapted for subsequent assembly and re-use with a replacement strap.

39. (canceled).

40. (currently amended) The radio frequency identification device of claim 38 further including an antenna carried by said strap, and coupling contact means for electrically operatively connecting said antenna with said radio frequency identification circuit when said securement means is connected to said strap.

41. (currently amended) A radio frequency identification device, comprising:

an elongated and disposable flexible strap having first and second opposite ends, said strap defining a pair of fastening openings formed respectively at said first and second ends thereof;

securement means removably connected to said strap for supporting and retaining said strap in a closed loop configuration encircling an object or an individual to be identified, said securement means defining first and second opposite extremities each having a size and shape for interference fit reception respectively into said openings at said strap first and second ends; and

a radio frequency identification circuit carried by said securement means; and

an antenna carried by said strap, and means for operatively connecting said antenna with said radio frequency identification circuit when said securement means is connected to said strap;

 said securement means with said radio frequency identification circuit carried thereby being removable from said strap prior to disposal of said strap, and being adapted for subsequent assembly and re-use with a replacement strap.

42. (canceled).

43. (currently amended) The radio frequency identification device of claim 41 ~~further including an~~ wherein said antenna is carried by said strap generally at said first end thereof for ~~electrical~~ operative connection with said radio frequency identification circuit when said first extremity of said securement means is received into the opening at said strap first end, and wherein said strap is marked at ~~including~~ indicia identifying said strap first end to indicate the location of said antenna.

44. (previously presented) The radio frequency identification device of claim 41 wherein said strap comprises an elongated tubular band.